

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 COME-00 /077 W
-----085812 020744Z /23

R 010401Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5863
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0514

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, BA, SA
SUBJECT: MARCH ARABIC LEAGUE MEETING: BAHRAIN HAS PROPOSED
CHANGE OF VENUE

1. I ASKED FOREIGN MINISTER FEB 28 IF HE FELT SCHEDULED
MARCH 27 MEETING OF ARAB LEAGUE FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD
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TAKE PLACE. HE REPLYED THAT IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT, AT
LEAST NOT AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, BUT THAT IT SHOULD.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID THAT HE HAS PROPOSED TO SAUDIS
THAT SAG ISSUE INVITATION TO HOLD MARCH 27 MEETING IN
RIYADH. PROPOSAL MADE TO SAUDI MFA UNDERSECRETARY AL-
FHUNAYAN DURING HIS FEB 17 VISIT TO BAHRAIN; NO ANSWER

RECEIVED TO DATE. FONMIN SAID HE FELT IT VERY IMPORTANT
IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES THAT REGULARLY SCHEDULED ARAB
LEAGUE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SOME
ARAB MEETINGS HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED BY SPLIT OVER SADAT'S
INITIATIVE, FONMIN SAID OAPEC MEETING HERE IN DECEMBER,
FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING IN TUNIS TEN DAYS AGO, AND OTHER
MEETINGS HAVE GONE WELL. HE SAID HE HOPED THERE WOULD BE
A FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN MARCH BUT THAT HE DOUBTED
THERE WOULD BE UNLESS SAUDIS ACCEPTED HIS PROPOSAL AND USE
THEIR INFLUENCE TO HAVE BOTH SYRIA AND EGYPT ATTEND.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANAMA00514
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780095-0395
Format: TEL
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803120/aaaadxxc.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7bc6d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3158316
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH ARABIC LEAGUE MEETING: BAHRAIN HAS PROPOSED CHANGE OF VENUE
TAGS: PORG, BA, SA, AL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7bc6d1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014